GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:111
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2004
TIES WITH RUSSIA
Bhakta Shri Manoranjan;Mahtab Shri Bhartruhari

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has signed any agreement with Russia to liberalise visa norms between the two countries;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether any agreement has also been signed in the field of atomic energy and space technology, recently;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) the details of other sectors where such agreements have been signed; and

(f) the benefits likely to be accrued from such agreements?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI. E. AHAMED)

(a) to (f) - A Statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (A) TO (F) OF THE ANSWER TO THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.111 TO BE ANSWERED ON 08.12.2004, ON `TIES WITH RUSSIA`.
(a) Yes, an agreement has been signed with Russia to liberalize visa norms between the two countries.

(b) During the visit of H.E. Mr. Vladimir Putin to India, an Agreement between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation on mutual travel regime by holders of diplomatic and official (Service) Passports was signed on 3.12.2004.

(c) Two agreements in the field of space cooperation have also been signed with the Russian Federation.

(d) The following two agreements in the field of space cooperation were signed during the visit of the President of the Russian Federation on 3.12.2004:

(i) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the field of Exploration and Use of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes.

(ii) Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on long term cooperation in the field of joint development, operation and utilization of the Russian Global Navigation Satellite System GLONASS for peaceful purposes.

(e) A Joint Declaration was signed between the President of the Russian Federation and the Prime Minister of India and Agreements / MoUs in the fields of inter-city cooperation, banking, energy and institutional cooperation were also signed on 3.12.2004.

(f) These Agreements / MoUs are expected to lead to mutually beneficial cooperation in their respective sectors.